

REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: Ann Marie (Amber) Machamer.

Information: In the Racial or Ethnic Background section of her initial application, Applicant described her race/ethnicity as Native American. Research by Bureau staff discovered an article in the *San Luis Obispo Tribune* newspaper identifying Applicant as the spokesperson for the Yak Tityu Tityu, a group of Chumash Native American families that claim the area of Avila Beach, California as their homeland.

In her third essay answer on her supplemental application regarding her appreciation for California's diverse demographics and geography, Applicant stated that she serves as a member of the American Indian Education Oversight Committee, which advises the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on on all aspects of American Indian education programs established by the state. Bureau staff asked Applicant how she obtained that position. Applicant responded that she obtained the position through an application process, and she was not appointed to the position. However, page 2 of the 2007 Annual Report of the Committee indicates that Applicant and the other ten members of the Committee were appointed to their positions on January 11, 2007 by Democratic State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell.

Research conducted by staff found that Applicant has written and been cited in several journal articles regarding adolescents and education. The titles of a few of these articles are: "Secondary School, Family, and Educational Risk: Comparing American Indian Adolescents and Their Peers" (authored); "Team Spirits: The Native American Mascots Controversy" (cited); and "Refereed Research Department Survey Reflects Student Development at D-Q University" (authored).

Staff research discovered that Applicant has two children that she did not list in the "Family Information" section of her supplemental application. Staff spoke with her about this omission, and Applicant submitted an amendment her application to add information about her two children.

As a result of different information appearing on Applicant's Form 700 than what appears in the "Family Information" section of her supplemental application, staff became confused about her

husband's sources of income and asked Applicant to provide some clarification. Applicant responded that her husband used to work for a business called Suntlet Solar, where he was only paid commissions, and he did not receive any commissions from that business during the Form 700 income reporting period, so that employer is not listed on the form. Her husband worked as an engineer at a business called ATI Architects and Engineers during the Form 700 income reporting period, and his income from that business is reported on Schedule C of the form. He also worked in the jewelry business for Roberto de Meglio, and his income from Mr. Meglio is also disclosed on Schedule C of the form. In addition to continuing to work as a representative for Mr. Meglio at trade shows, her husband now works at Energy & Resource Solutions, but this is a new job so he did not receive any income from that business during the Form 700 income reporting period. Applicant's husband also operates a coin laundry business with a business partner.

Bureau staff also asked Applicant about the loan from Barbara Gonzolas that she disclosed on Schedule B of her Form 700. Applicant responded that the loan is related to a building that she and her husband bought from Barbara Gonzolas in 2006. The building includes the coin-operated laundry that her husband operates.

Bureau staff contacted Judy Delgado, the author of one of Applicant's letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Ms. Delgado confirmed the information in the letter and added that Applicant is reflective and nonjudgmental in committee meetings. Staff asked Ms. Delgado about her statement that Applicant "supports the needs of diverse populations." She answered that the "diverse populations" she was referring to were the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and tribal leaders. The CTC has standards for issuing teacher credentials while the tribal community feels that Native speakers should not be required to have a college degree to be credentialed since they have knowledge that cannot be taught through traditional academia. Ms. Delgado stated that Applicant brought both sides to "meet in the middle," which resulted in legislation allowing tribes to decide who is qualified to teach while maintaining the integrity of teacher credentialing.

Recommendation: None.

Name and title of person submitting response: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations

Report Date: September 17, 2010